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Security Council

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## Letter dated 12 August 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I am forwarding to you a letter dated 7 August 2014 from the Chair of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, established by Council resolution 1612 (2005). The letter is in follow-up to the conclusions adopted by the Working Group on 7 July 2014 (S/AC.51/2014/2).

(*Signed*) Mark Lyall **Grant**
President of the Security Council

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## Annex to the letter dated 12 August 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

1. At its 44th meeting, on 1 May 2014, the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict examined the first report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Mali (S/2014/267), covering the period from January 2012 to December 2013. At its 48th meeting, on 7 July 2014, the Working Group adopted its conclusions on children and armed conflict in Mali (S/AC.51/2014/2).

2. In follow-up to the recommendations of the Working Group, which were approved by the Security Council, and subject to and consistent with applicable international law and relevant Council resolutions, including resolutions 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009), 1998 (2011), 2068 (2012) and 2143 (2014), I am entrusted, in my capacity as Chair of the Working Group:

(a) To request the Secretary-General to ensure the effectiveness of the monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict in Mali and of the child protection component of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), including through the swift deployment of child protection advisers throughout MINUSMA areas of operation, and noting that their key tasks will include, among others, monitoring and reporting on violations and abuses committed against children, mainstreaming child protection within the United Nations Mission, training of the United Nations Mission personnel and dialogue on action plans;

(b) To also request the Secretary-General to ensure that MINUSMA and the United Nations Children's Fund strengthen their efforts to further support, in line with their respective mandates, the Malian authorities in mainstreaming the specific needs of children affected by the armed conflict and the protection of their rights in all disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes and security sector reform, in establishing a joint mechanism for the review of cases of children detained on charges related to the armed conflict and their association with armed groups, in conducting a screening and age verification of the Malian defence and security forces and in establishing recruitment procedures and age verification measures to prevent underage recruitment;

(c) To further request the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations country task force on monitoring and reporting continues its advocacy for the release and reintegration of children associated with armed groups and forces and children detained on charges related to association with armed groups and prioritizes its efforts to reach out to non-State armed groups, with a view to developing action plans to end the recruitment and use of children in violation of applicable international law, as well as rape and sexual violence, and to address other violations and abuses committed against children in Mali.

(*Signed*) Sylvie **Lucas**
Chair
Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict